

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims is set forth below for the convenience of the Examiner.

1. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method of providing delivery information for order-received products to a customer, comprising:

entering requirement information of products from the customer to a management unit;
providing the customer with shipment guarantee information from said management unit, which shipment guarantee information includes at least a deliverable volume provisionally allocated to said products to be delivered by an appointed delivery date, according to a temporary order included in said requirement information;

receiving formal order-receiving information of the products by the management unit from said customer in response to said shipment guarantee information; and

formally allocating a shipment volume for said products corresponding to said shipment guarantee information, by the management unit, considering the order included in said received formal order-receiving information.

2. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of providing delivery information, for order-received products, to a customer according to claim 1, wherein, in said formally allocating, when said provisionally allocated deliverable volume exceeds a shipment volume, a portion of the excess is used for another formal allocation, and when said provisionally allocated deliverable volume falls short in comparison with a formal allocation, a portion of the shortage is allocated to a new formal order-receiving.

3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of providing delivery information for order-received products to a customer according to claim 1, wherein, in said formally allocating, the shipment guarantee information is deleted on or after a deadline delivery date for receiving said formal order-receiving information which deadline delivery date is calculated from the appointed delivery date included in said shipment guarantee information.

4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A program of providing a delivery date for order-received products to a customer, the program causing a computer to execute a method comprising:

entering requirement information, of products, from the customer to a management unit;
providing the customer with shipment guarantee information from said management unit,
which said shipment guarantee information includes at least a deliverable volume provisionally
allocated to said products to be delivered by an appointed delivery date according to a
temporary order included in said requirement information;

receiving formal order-receiving information of the products from said customer by the
management unit in response to said shipment guarantee information; and

formally allocating a shipment volume for said products corresponding to said shipment
guarantee information, by the management unit, considering the order included in said formal
order-receiving information.

5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The program of providing a delivery date for order-
received products to customer as set forth in claim 4, wherein, in said formally allocating, when
said provisionally allocated deliverable volume exceeds the shipment volume , a portion of the
excess is used for other formal allocation, and when said provisionally allocated deliverable
volume falls short in comparison with a formal allocation, a portion of the shortage is allocated to
a new formal order-receiving.

6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The program of providing a delivery date for order-
received products to customer as set forth in claim 4, wherein, in said formally allocating, the
shipment guarantee information is deleted on or after a deadline delivery date for receiving said
formal order-receiving information which deadline delivery date is calculated from the appointed
delivery date included in said shipment guarantee information.

7. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A computer readable recording medium having
recorded therein a program for providing a delivery date for order-received products to a
customer, the program causing a computer to execute a method comprising:

entering requirement information of products from the customer to a management unit;
providing the customer with shipment guarantee information from said management unit,
which shipment guarantee information includes at least a deliverable volume provisionally
allocated to said products to be delivered by an appointed delivery date according to a
temporary order included in said requirement information;

receiving formal order-receiving information of the products by the management unit from
said customer in response to said shipment guarantee information; and

formally allocating a shipment volume for said products by the management unit, shipment volume corresponding to said shipment guarantee information considering the order included in said received formal order-receiving information.

8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer readable storage medium as set forth in claim 7, wherein, in said formally allocating, when said provisionally allocated deliverable volume exceeds the shipment volume, a portion of the excess is used for an other formal allocation, and when said provisionally allocated deliverable volume falls short in comparison with formal allocation, a portion of the shortage is allocated to a new formal order-receiving.

9. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A computer readable storage medium as set forth in claim 7, wherein, in said formally allocating, the shipment guarantee information is deleted on or after a deadline delivery date for receiving said formal order-receiving information which deadline delivery date is calculated from the appointed delivery date included in said shipment guarantee information.

10. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A processing unit to provide a delivery date for order-received products to a customer, comprising:

a user-interface to receive requirement information, a change to the requirement information and formal order-receiving information from the customer and to output a corresponding shipment guarantee information;

an allocation unit to provide a production manager system with an estimate volume based on the requirement information, to receive from the production manager inventories to be allocated and to generate the shipment guarantee information which includes a delivery date provisionally allocated to a volume of products of an order included in the requirement information; and

a formal allocation unit to correlate the formal order-receiving information with the requirement information and to allocate the shipment guarantee information provided in response to the correlated requirement information to a volume of products of a formal order included in the formal order-receiving information.